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BERGGREN
JYVÄSKYLÄ

21 June 2005

TELEFAX 3 pp - Original by mail
FAX: 990 41 22 733 5428

WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Our ref: BP109702/SVA/SPO

COMMENTS TO WRITTEN OPINION
INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION PCT/FI2004/050121
APPLICANT: NOKIA CORPORATION
DUE DATE: JULY 4, 2005

On account of the Written Opinion issued on December 9, 2004 we respectfully submit the following:

Prior art publication D1 that was deemed the closest prior art discloses a camera arrangement including a list of locations from which a certain location can be selected either manually or automatically (e.g. based on GPS localization upon a photograph capture) and attached into a freshly taken photograph as additional information. Other location dependent information such as air humidity or temperature may also be linked with the photograph. In other words, D1 discloses an automated solution for adding metadata to photograph files thus enabling further photograph database searches with enlarged search term space.

One of the main features of the current invention is the allocation of picture file names. The prior art publications do not address this important issue at all.

One could justifiably allege that file names constitute the major identification means for computer files independent of the underlying system, which may be a camera, a mobile terminal, a desktop/laptop computer, etc. Instead, metadata variables as the ones presented in the prior art publications, despite of their admitted usefulness in some extensive search applications, are not universal between different platforms, i.e. different imaging or browsing applications do not

BERGGREN-YHTIÖT • BERGGREN GROUP

BERGGREN OY AB
Ohjelmakaari 1
FIN-40500 Jyväskylä
FINLAND

KÄYNTIOSOITE • OFFICE
Ohjelmakaari 1
Jyväskylä

PUH. • TEL
Nat. (014) 445 1415
Int. +358 14 445 1415
Fax +358 14 445 1416

E-MAIL
email.box@berggren.fi
www.berggren.fi

PANKIT • BANKERS
NORDEA 157330-15411
SWIFT .NDEAFIHH
SAMPO 800017-90104
SAMPO USD 800060-40136442
SWIFT PSPBFIHH

YHTIÖ • COMPANY
Y 0107002-7
VAT FI01070027
Kotipaikka Helsinki
Domicile Helsinki



necessarily recognize and/or properly interpret various metadata fields and values created by other applications.

The intelligent naming arrangement of the invention indicates collecting dynamically a vocabulary to be used for naming a picture file. The vocabulary may be constructed from a plurality of sources not necessarily having a direct connection to the metadata associated with the picture. The vocabulary is then offered to the user for final file name determination without a need to manually type in anything. The user may edit the entries in the vocabulary if necessary and perform the selection between different alternatives though. The same vocabulary may be used to name subsequent photographs. Exploitation of the arrangement results in a file name that is comparable with traditional, carefully studied and manually inputted name.

Semantic naming of picture files is not a trivial task. Cited prior art concentrates on metadata whereas some existing prior art naming methods for picture files are based on simple formulas relying on running numbers, etc without true analysis of the context/semantics relating to the picture. Further manual, one-by-one type renaming of picture files is awkward especially in modern portable devices with limited UI capabilities including a limited size display and a limited size keypad/keyboard or other comparable input means. Moreover, dealing with different metadata variables is even more difficult and time-consuming in those devices.

The current invention provides a solution where the primary identification means, being the file name, is selected as descriptive of the picture content. This procedure saves memory space as gathering separate metadata for possible future searches and picture inspection is not necessary; file names are, in any case, needed.

The proposed two-step arrangement, wherein the system creates name suggestions to the user based on available information and the user does the final selection/editing, combines the best aspects of both the automated and manual image naming techniques. Namely, automatization saves work from the user and the final selection enables the user in conjunction with picture acquisition, which is beneficial as the user may at that time still remember best what the picture was about, to verify the automatically produced suggestion and to even depart from the typical line or just correct the remaining defect(s) in the system-determined name.

The current invention also provides a diversity of options for defining the factors affecting the name selection in contrast to the prior art solutions where location was the de facto aspect for naming a picture file.



As a conclusion we still strongly believe that the current invention satisfies the criteria of novelty and inventive step even without introducing amendments to the claims.

BERGGREN OY AB
For Sakari Värilä


Arto Stenroos
Patent Attorney

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FI 2004/050121

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 17/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5296884 A (HONDA, T ET AL), 22 March 1994 (22.03.1994), column 1, line 36 - column 3, line 7, abstract	1-27

A	EP 0920179 A2 (EASTMAN KODAK CO), 2 June 1999 (02.06.1999)	1-27

A	WO 0193655 A2 (SHIMAN ASSOCIATES, INC), 13 December 2001 (13.12.2001)	1-27

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

09-12-2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Swedish Patent Office

Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM

Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Oskar Pihlgren /LR

Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/FI 2004/050121

US	5296884	A	22/03/1994	JP	3147358 B	19/03/2001
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